APR 1 6 2004 95

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Toshiro Okamura, et al.

Examiner:

Unassigned

Serial No:

10/678,504

Art Unit:

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Filed:

October 3, 2003

Docket:

17074

For:

MAGNETIC FLUID DETECTING

Dated:

April 13, 2004

APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING SENTINEL LYMPH NODES

Conf. No.:

1974

Mail Stop Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 13, 2004.

Dated: April 13, 2004

Thomas Spinelli